WO 99/48817 PCT/CA99/00233

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A water sanitizing device, comprising:

a water inlet for connection to a water supply,

a sanitizing region in fluid communication with the water inlet, for sanitizing water from the water supply to produce a batch of sanitized water,

a reservoir for storing the batch of sanitized water, in fluid communication with the sanitizing region and having a water outlet, an upper limit level sensor and a lower limit level sensor, and

a valve disposed between the sanitizing region and the reservoir to permit a flow of water from the sanitizing region to the reservoir when the lower limit level sensor detects that a water level in the reservoir has reached a selected lower limit.

- 2. The device of claim 1 wherein the valve interrupts the flow of water from the sanitizing region to the reservoir when the upper limit level sensor detects that a water level in the reservoir has reached a selected upper limit.
- 3. The device of claim 2 wherein the reservoir is provided with a source of pressurized air whereby the batch of sanitized water is dispensed from the reservoir under pressure.
- 4. The device of claim 3 wherein an air valve is disposed between the air supply and the reservoir.
- 5. The device of claim 4 wherein the air valve is solenoid operated.
- 6. The device of claim 1 wherein the sanitizing region comprises a sanitizing tank positioned at a higher level than the reservoir so that the batch of

WO 99/48817 PCT/CA99/00233

sanitized water drains into the reservoir under the influence of gravity.

7. The device of claim 2 wherein the sanitizing region is provided with a drain for draining excess sanitized water remaining in the sanitizing region after the valve closes.

- 8. The device of claim 1 wherein the reservoir is provided with a drain for draining sanitized water from the reservoir.
- 9. The device of claim 1 additionally comprising a check valve disposed upstream from the sanitizing region to prevent a backflow of water from the device into the water supply.
- 10. A method of dispensing sanitized water, comprising the steps of:
- (a) sanitizing a batch of water in a sanitizing region;
- (b) detecting a water level in a reservoir in fluid communication with the sanitizing region;
- (c) draining the batch of sanitized water from the sanitizing region to the reservoir responsive to the water level in the reservoir reaching a selected lower limit; and
- (d) dispensing the sanitized water from the reservoir.
- 11. The method defined in claim 10 further comprising the step of interrupting communication between the sanitizing region and the reservoir responsive to the water level in the reservoir reaching a selected upper limit.

WO 99/48817 PCT/CA99/00233

12. The method defined in claim 11 further comprising the step of pressurizing the air in the reservoir whereby the batch of sanitized water is dispensed from the reservoir under pressure.

- 13. The method defined in claim 12 wherein the air pressure in the reservoir is controlled by an air valve.
- 14. The method defined in claim 13 wherein the air valve is solenoid operated.
- 15. The method defined in claim 10 wherein the batch of sanitized water drains to the reservoir under the influence of gravity.
- 16. The method defined in claim 10 further comprising the step of preventing backflow of water from the sanitizing region into a water supply.